

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph on Page 12, lines 3 - 10 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- When customization options are provided, the user may be presented with choices such as those shown in Fig. 5A, wherein a selection may be made among factors which will be used when determining an optimal shopping path. As shown in this example, a user may select to optimize the path based upon price (option 1) or minimal distance (option 2). Or (as illustrated by option 3), the user may be asked to provide his "time budget" -- that is, how much time he has available for shopping on this trip. A relatively larger amount of time may be taken as an indication that the user can shop longer, so that price should be given preference over distance, while a relatively shorter amount of time may be taken as an indication of the opposite situation. -

Please replace the paragraph that begins on Page 21, line 16 and carries over to Page 22, line 5 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- Fig. 5B illustrates a sample user interface that may be provided to indicate the selected shopping path to the user. As shown in this example, the user has requested to purchase some hardware items, a photo album and music CD, and some computer equipment. A path (shown within encircled element 500) is illustrated on a city map. An identification of each selected merchant, along with a list of items to be purchased from that merchant, [[as]] is shown at element 510. A checkbox may be provided for indicating when each purchase has been completed. The expected sales price and normal retail price for each item may also be displayed,

as shown in the example. A total for the items may be provided, along with a total of the normal retail price and a summary of the cost savings, as shown at 520. --

Please replace the paragraph on Page 24, lines 4 - 8 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- While the preferred embodiments of the present invention have been described, additional variations and modifications in those embodiments may occur to those skilled in the art once they learn of the basic inventive concepts. Therefore, it is intended that the appended claims shall be construed to include [[both]] the preferred embodiment embodiments and all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit and scope of the invention. --

Serial No. 09/855,827

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Docket RSW920010061US1